IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

providing an adjuvant comprising one or more beta-1,3 linkages and one or more beta-1,6 linkages that has been treated with an enzyme that selectively acts on the one or more beta-1,6 linkages, wherein the adjuvant does not induce antibody production against itself;

providing a vaccine;

administering the vaccine to a mammal; and

administering the adjuvant to the mammal.

[A mucosal adjuvant composition that enhances the effect of medicinal substances administered onto mucosal surfaces, the mucosal adjuvant composition comprising a branched beta-1,3-glucan that contains beta-1,3-linked side chains anchored by a beta-1,6-linkage to the beta-1,3-linked chains.]

2. (Currently Amended) The method [composition] of claim 1 wherein the vaccine is administered before the adjuvant [wherein the substance is a vaccine formulation].

3. (Currently Amended) The [composition] method of claim wherein the adjuvant has a particle size between about 2 and 5 micrometers. [1 wherein the substance is an influenza virus vaccine].

4. (Currently amended) The method of [administering the composition of] claim 1 wherein the mammal is a human and the vaccine is a mucosal vaccine. [onto a mucosal membrane wherein the substance is administrated into the nasal cavity].

5. (Currently amended) [A] The method of [administering the composition of] claim 1 [onto a mucosal membrane wherein the substance is administrated orally] wherein the adjuvant is administered nasally.

E1 cont'd

6. (Currently amended) The [composition] method of claim 1 wherein the [substance forms a mixture with the mucosal adjuvant composition] adjuvant is administered vaginally, rectally or gastrically.

7. (Currently amended) The [A] method of [administering the composition of] claim 1 wherein [the the substance is administrated prior to the mucosal adjuvant composition] the vaccine is an influenza vaccine.

8. (Currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

providing an adjuvant and a vaccine;

administering the adjuvant and the vaccine to a mammal; and then

administering the vaccine without the adjuvant to the mammal after the passage of at least about twenty-four hours, wherein T-cells within the mammal increase after administering the vaccine without the adjuvant.

[The composition of claim 1 wherein the substance and the mucosal adjuvant composition are intended for administration are used as nasal spray].

9-12. (Previously Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) [A] The method of [administering the composition of] claim [1] 8 wherein vaccine is an influenza vaccine [the substance is administered vaginally, rectally or gastriclly].

14. (Currently amended) [A] The method of [administering the composition of] claim [1] 8 wherein the vaccine is administered without the adjuvant to the mammal after the passage of at

least about one week [wherein the substance is administrated simultaneously with the mucosal adjuvant composition].

E1 cont'd

15. (Currently amended) [A] The method [of administering the composition] of claim [1] 8 wherein the adjuvant comprises a beta-1,3-glucan that contains beta-1,3-linked side chains anchored by a beta-1,6-linkage to the beta-1,3-linked chains [wherein the substance is administrated after administration of the mucosal adjuvant composition].

16. (Currently amended) The [composition] method of claim [1] 8 wherein the mammal is a human [the substance and the mucosal adjuvant composition are formulated as nasal drops].

17. (Currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

providing an adjuvant that does not induce antibody production against itself;

providing a vaccine

administering the vaccine to a human; and

administering the adjuvant to the human.

[A mucosal adjuvant composition that enhances the effect of an influenza virus vaccine administered onto mucosal surfaces, the mucosal adjuvant composition comprising glucose monomers linked together in branched beta-1,3 linked chains with beta-1,3,6 linked branching points comprising beta-1,3 linked or beta 1,6 linked side chains].

18. (Currently amended) [A] The method of [administering the composition of] claim 17 [onto a mucosal membrane wherein] wherein the vaccine is administered before the adjuvant [the influenza virus vaccine is administrated into the nasal cavity].

19. (Currently amended) The [A] method [of administering the composition] of claim 17 wherein the adjuvant has a particle size between about 2 and 5 micrometers [onto a mucosal membrane wherein the influenza virus vaccine is administrated orally].

20. (Currently amended) The [composition] method of claim 17 wherein the adjuvant comprises molecular aggregates that dissolve in water [the influenza virus vaccine is admixed with the mucosal adjuvant preparation].

21. (Currently amended) [A] The method [of administering the composition of] claim 17 wherein the adjuvant is administered mucosally [wherein the influenza virus vaccine is administrated prior to the mucosal adjuvant composition].

22. (Currently amended) The [A] method [of administering the composition] of claim 17 wherein the vaccine is a mucosal vaccine [vaccine is administrated simultaneously with the adjuvant composition].

23. (Currently amended) The [A] method [of administering the composition] of claim 17 wherein the vaccine is an influenza [virus] vaccine [is administrated after administration of the mucosal adjuvant composition].

24. (Currently amended) The [composition] method of claim 17 wherein the [influenza virus] vaccine and the [mucosal] adjuvant [composition] are [intended for administration] formulated as nasal spray.

25. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 17 wherein the [influenza virus vaccine and the mucosal] the adjuvant comprises a beta-1,3-glucan that contains beta-1,3-linked side chains anchored by a beta-1,6-linkage to the beta-1,3-linked chains [composition are used as nasal drops].